THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, January 18. 1792.

Additional remarks on the Poetry of Buchanan.

(Continued from p. 56. vol. vi. and concluded.)

These remarks have been thus long deferred owing to the author's being indisposed. Such readers as have not seen the preceding volumes, in which was the introductory part, are informed, that the four former divisions of Buchanan's poetical works have been briefly characterised. The author proceeds to the fifth entitled *Edit.*

5. *Hendecasyllabom Liber.*

THE love verses in this section have all the tendernefs, elegance, and vivacity of Catullus. Some Englifh imitators of Spenser and Milton, have copied nothing but their faults. On the contrary, Buchanan improves upon his master. We are no where disgusted by the licentious vulgarity of the Roman poet. The following elegant addrefs may serve as a specimen of his style.

Quantum delicias tuas amabam,
Odi deterius duplo, ampliufque

Tuam nequitiam et procacitatem,
Poſtquam te propius, Neæra novi.
At tu si penitus perire me vis,
Si vis perdite amem, et magis magisque
Totis artubus imbibam furorem,
Sis nequam magis, et magis proterva.
Nam quo nequior es, protervior que,
Tanto impensius urorinquieto
Ventilante odio faces amoris,
Et lentas iterum ciente flammas.
Quod si sis melior, modestiorque,
Odero minus, et minus te amabo.

" As much as I loved thy charms, twice as much " more have I hated thy pride and wantonneſs, after O " Neæra ! I knew thee better.—But if thou canst wiſh " me utterly undone, if thou desirest that I ſhould " love to distraction, that madneſs ſhould more and " more burn in every vein, be still more haughty, and " ſtill more wanton. For the more haughty and the " more wanton thou art, by so much more deeply am " I inflamed with restleſs hatred fanning the torch of " love, and again kindling its decaying flames. Wert " thou more modest, and more worthy, I ſhould hate " thee leſs, but I ſhould love thee leſs."

We have also some ſhort and beautiful addreſses to Theodore Beza, and other men of letters, which must have been infinitely pleasing and flattering to the author's literary aſsociates. We cannot wonder that wit, and learning, and valour, and beauty, whatever is amiable, or venerable in human nature, crouded into the correspondence of a poet, prodigal of immortality. The last article in this ſection proves that Buchanan poſseſsed the art of raising, into importance, a subject

in itself trifling. I speak of verses on a diamond cut into the ſhape of a heart, and set in a ring, which Queen Mary, in 1564, sent as a present to Elizabeth. To forbear their insertion, is an injury to the author.

6. This section consists, like the last, of eleven articles. The first is inscribed to Walter Haddon. The remainder consist of four satires addreſsed to Leonora, a Portuguese bawd; four pieces of the same nature, inscribed to a profeſsor in Coimbra; and two translations from the Greek, one of which is the satire of Simonides upon women. This poem, the Spectator has pretended to translate entire, but has omitted the last twenty-five lines, which, as the poet's parting blow, contain a furious invective against the whole sex. After this honest piece of management the Spectator praises the Greek poet for his delicacy in forbearing to cast out any general reflections against women. I return to Buchanan. His first addreſs to Leonora begins thus:

> Matre impudica filia impudicior,
> Et lena mater filiæ,
> Vos me putastis eſse ludumque et jocum,
> O Scorta triobolaria,
> Sacrificulorum pauperum fastidia
> Relicta mendicabulis?
> Vos ne videret gurgites, ne paſceret
> Vir filiæ usque ad ultimos
> Profugit Indos: nec viæ longinquitas,
> Nec nota feritas gentium,
> Nec belluoſi rapida sævities freti
> Ab instituto terruit.
> Nullum periculum, nulla monstri est vastitas
> Quam perpeti non maluit,
> Quam vos videre duplices voragines
> Famæ reique prodigas.

Externa potius arma, quam domesticam
Vult ferre turpitudinem.

" O daughter more impudent than thy impudent " mother, and thou bawd to thy daughter, ye have " thought me to be a jest and a sport, ye threepenny " strumpets, ye detested leavings of the beggarly attend- " ants of starving priests.

" Lest he ſhould see, or support such whirlpools, " the daughter's huſband fled to the remotest Indies. " Neither the length of paſsage nor the well known " ferocity of the natives could fright him from his " purpose. There was no danger, there was no sa- " vage monster whom he was not willing rather to en- " counter, than to behold you, two riotous spendthrifts, " equally prodigal of caſh and character. He chuses " rather to bear foreign arms than domestic infamy."

The rest of the poem, of which the above is about a fourth part, is suitable to such a beginning. The profeſsor is, if poſsible, treated with still leſs ceremony.

" He knows," says Buchanan, " every science ex- " cept those which he pretends to teach; he is an ex- " cellent cook, weaver, huckster, jockey, and usur- " er. No butcher in the public market ever excel- " led him at cheating with false weights."

I have already far exceeded the limits intended for this eſsay, and ſhall conclude by a few general remarks on our author's stile.

No poet ever required leſs aid from critical illustration. In Buchanan we very seldom meet with those sudden transitions from one topic to another, ſo fre-

quent in Horace and Juvenal; so distrefsing often to the learner, though sometimes so pleasing to the mature scholar. Whatever be his object, it is ever kept in view. From the FRANSISCANUS for example, two lines cannot be abstracted without evident mutilation. Perhaps his experience, as a teacher, may partly have instructed him to sympathize with the difficulties of a beginner. No Roman author, now extant, exhibits such a variety of style. There is not perhaps one clafsical word in the Latin language which may not be somewhere found in his writings. Yet there are very few difficult pafsages in Buchanan. As his subject requires it, he is alternately copious without prolixity, and concise without abruptnefs.

The remaining poems of this author consist, *1ſt*, Of three books of epigrams, containing about an hundred and eighty-six articles. *2d*, His miscellanies. This section which contains thirty-eight pieces, supplies us with some of his principal efforts in Lyric poetry. 3*d*, His De *Sphæra*, in five books, perhaps the noblest didactic poem in the world, and unquestionably the most sublime monument of the genius of Buchanan. 4*th*, His four tragedies. 5*th*, His satire on the cardinal of Lorraine, and some other pieces not usually arranged under any of the former sections. Among these are his celebrated dedication of the Psalms to queen Mary, and a copy of verses inscribed to John third of Portugal, which alone, had he composed nothing else, would have entitled him to the character of a great poet. It is astoniſhing to consider what splendor of sentiment, and luxuriance of imagery are comprised within twenty-two lines.

It was my first design to glance over these remaining sections, and endeavour to exprefs my opinion of their merit. But the tafk is arduous, and it becomes necefsary for me to decline it. It was my chief design to excite a spirit of popular curiosity concerning Buchanan's original poems. For since Ruddiman's edition in 1715, they have not, as far as I can learn, been publifhed in this country.

J. T. C.

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on the instinct of animals.

To the Editor of the Bee.

The instinct of animals is an inexhaustible theme. By instinct, I mean that powerful propensity imprefsed by nature, on the minds of animate objects, by which they are, without deliberation, impelled to adopt measures for the propogation and preservation of the species. It seems to be only incidentally connected with the reasoning powers. Instinct is often found to be strongest in animals whose reasoning powers are of the weakest sort. Among animals which pofsefs the power of reason in a strong degree, especially those who have superadded to that, the faculties which we call imagination, and sensibility, the natural instincts are frequently so far overborne and modified by these, as to be in some measure obliterated in them. Hence it is, that of all the animals with which we are acquainted, the natural instincts of man, unlefs it be in mere infancy, are the least perceptible; and his propensities of course, the most various. The human instincts are controuled by reason, and influenced by imagination, and swayed by the sympathetic affections, to

such a degree, as often to aſsume a direction totally different, in one person, from what they do in another, in the same circumstances. There are only a very few cases in which the instincts of man operate invariably in the same manner on all the species.

The instincts of animals always act the most invariably in regard, 1*st*, To the immediate preservation of life, by means of food; 2*dly*, the propogation of the species; 3*dly*, the care of the young; and 4*thly*, the guarding against external injury. In the first instance, man is nearly on a footing with other animals; in the second, he deviates from them in several particulars, owing to the influence of the moral principle, and the other faculties above alluded to, controuling, and modifying the mere animal instinct. In the third case, the difference between man and other animals is exceeding great; and in the last case, man so far excells all other animals, as to have subjected the whole animate creation to his sway, and compelled them to minister to his wants in a thousand various ways.

The instinct of animals, as it operates for the preservation of their young, has ever appeared the most interesting to man, because it seems to indicate that they poſseſs a certain ſhare of that delicate sensation which we have denominated *sensibility*. This sensation in man is so intimately connected with the power of the imagination, which, when vigorous, is productive of such inexpreſsible delight to the mind, that he is disposed, involuntarily, to attribute the same kind of sensation to mere animals, in this instance, that he himself feels in a similar situation. There seems,

however, to be great reason to believe that here he judges without sufficient reason, for, as in the intercourse of the sexes, except in the human species, and pairing animals, mere animal gratification is blindly pursued without selection of objects; so in the care of the young, a similar animal instinct appears to operate with the same irresistable power for a ſhort time, after which ſhort period it totally, and entirely subsides, without ever being farther recognised, unleſs when it happens accidentally to be connected, as it in some cases is, with the gregarious instinct. The eagle nourishes its young with the most sedulous care, and defends them from insult at the hazard of its life without the smallest hesitation; but in a few months, he drives them from his own rock, with furious blows; nor ever from that period recognizes them more. The lioneſs, in like manner, suckles her young with the most tender solicitude: in their defence exposes herself to every danger, and denies herself the morsel when pinched for hunger, that her young may enjoy an abundant repast; but in a few months ſhe drives them from her den, nor ever after takes the smallest notice of them nor their concerns.

The same temporary fury, if I may adopt that phrase, operates even upon the most timid animals in defence of their young. The cow, in her native state, becomes a most desperate aſsailant of every animal that approaches her calf; even the ſheep, the meekest of all animals, will butt at the dog, or any other creature that approaches her lamb; ſhe will fiercely turn upon them, and, with a determined aspect, stamp with her feet, and threaten the aſsailant; an

exertion that the timid ewe never is capable of in her own defence. In a ſhort time, however, the lamb is lost in the flock, and the mother soon knows it no more.

The love of children, and the consequent exertions for their preservation, seems to be so intimately connected with the finer feelings of the human mind, that we can scarcely divest ourselves of the idea that thoſe animals which discover a very strong attachment for their young are of a superior cast, in point of understanding, to others. But this conjecture seems to be ill founded. The common hen is one of the most stupid, and in consequence of that stupidity, one of the most indocile animals we know. She can be taught to come upon a call, in hopes of getting food, and this seems to be the utmost stretch of her docility. She is not only a stupid, but a timid animal in general; but when ſhe has her young brood to take care of, ſhe becomes furious in their defence; no danger will alarm her, nor can any force make her abandon her young: If they are dispersed, ſhe flies around them like a fury, endeavouring to collect them, and drive off the annoying objects; ſhe may be hurt, ſhe may be maimed, ſhe may be driven off for a moment, but will not abandon them; ſhe always returns to the charge, nor can ſhe, while in life, be made to desert them. If her brood be under her wings, ſhe will sit quietly on some occasions, and suffer any distreſs rather than subject her young fry to insult. I once saw a hen, in this situation, attacked by another brood mother, that had sat quietly above her young till the other had deliberately picked a hole through her ſkull, into the very brain. Yet this

stupid animal, which is so resolute during a ſhort period, in defence of her young, abandons them entirely in a few weeks, nor ever afterwards seems to have the smallest attachment to, or even recollection of them.

Nor is this animal instinct, in favour of their young, peculiarly vivid in those creatures that are of a mild and inoffensive disposition, as we would naturally expect ſhould be the case. We might indeed expect that the most ravenous carnivorous animals would be the boldest, when attacked, in defence of their young; because this seems congenial to the natural disposition of such animals; but we would not expect that they ſhould be strongly affected with grief at their misfortunes, or mourn over them after their death. The hen is as furious in defence of her young as any animal can be; but when a chicken is once dead, ſhe abandons it with as much seeming unconcern as if it were a clod of clay. Her care extends to its defence only while it is in life, nor does ſhe seem to be sensible of any pain it may suffer. This is not the case with the bear. The great white bear of Nova Zembla is a carnivorous animal, and one of the most intrepid that is known on the globe.

A few years since, the crew of a boat belonging to a ſhip in the whale fiſhery ſhot at a bear, at a ſhort distance, and wounded it. The animal immediately set up the most hideous yells, and ran along the ice towards the boat. Before it reached it, a second shot was fired, and hit it. This served only to encrease its fury. It presently swam to the boat; and in attempting to get on board, reached its forefoot upon the gunnel; but one of the crew having a hatchet, cut it

off. The animal still, however, continued to swim after them till they arrived at the ship; and several ſhots were fired at it, which also took effect; but, on reaching the ſhip, it immediately ascended the deck; and the crew having fled into the ſhrowds, it was pursuing them thither, when a ſhot from one of them laid it dead on the deck.

When its young is attacked, it becomes uncommonly furious in their defence, and if they ſhould be wounded, it seems to suffer more for the pain they feel than its own. The following is a well authenticated fact.

While a frigate that was some years ago on a voyage for discoveries towards the North Pole, was locked in the ice, early one morning the man at the mast head gave notice, that three bears were making their way very fast over the frozen ocean, and were directing their course towards the ſhip. They had been invited by the scent of some blubber of a sea-horse the crew had killed some days before, which had been set on fire, and was burning on the ice at the time of their approach. They proved to be a ſhe bear and two cubs; but the cubs were nearly as large as the dam. They ran eagerly to the fire, and drew out from the flames, part of the fleſh of the sea-horse that remained unconsumed, and eat it voraciously. The crew, from the ship threw great lumps of the sea-horse which they had still left, upon the ice, which the old bear fetched away singly, laid every lump before her cubs as ſhe brought it, and dividing it, gave each a ſhare, reserving but a ſhort portion for herself. As ſhe was fetching away the last piece, they levelled their muſkets at the cubs, and ſhot them both dead,

and, in her retreat, they wounded the dam, but not mortally. It would have drawn tears of pity from any but unfeeling minds, to have marked the affectionate concern expreſsed by this poor beast in the dying moments of her expiring young. Though ſhe was sorely wounded herself, and could but just crawl to the place where they lay, ſhe carried the lumps of fleſh ſhe had fetched away, as ſhe had done others before; tore it in pieces, and laid it down before them. When ſhe saw they refused to eat it, ſhe laid her paws first upon one, and then upon the other, and endeavoured to raise them up; all this while it was pitiful to hear her moan. When ſhe found ſhe could not stir them, ſhe went off, and when ſhe had got at some distance, ſhe looked back and moaned; that not availing to entice them, ſhe returned, and, smelling round them, began to lick their wounds. She went off a second time, as before, and having crawled a few paces, looked again behind her, and for some time stood moaning. But still her cubs not rising to follow her, she returned to them again, and with signs of inexpreſsible tenderneſs, went round one, and round the other, pawing them and moaning. Finding at last they were cold and lifeleſs, ſhe raised her head towards the ſhip, and growled a curse upon the murderers, which they returned with a volley of muſket-balls. She fell between her cubs, and died licking their wounds.

I am afraid, Sir, of tiring you with a long paper. The subject is by no means exhausted, and if you will give me permiſsion I ſhall send a continuation of this paper, in hopes that it may induce some of your better-informed correspondents to elucidate some

of the plainest points of natural history, for the sake of others equally ill-informed, and equally desirous of receiving instruction as

A Young Observer.

ON THE BALANCE OF TRADE, AND EXCHANGES.

For the Editor of the Bee.

MUCH has been said, and many books have been written on the balance of trade, very little to the purpose. Authors, in general, have had recourse to custom-house books, to obtain the amount of imports, and exports between particular countries, from the value of which they have pleased themselves by stricking the balance of trade. Nothing surely can be more fallacious than this mode of judging. All the articles that are smuggled on either side, never make an appearance there. If duties are paid, the quantity of goods appearing, will be considerably diminiſhed. If these duties are rated by the value of the goods, that value will be stated much below the truth. If no duties are paid, the entries will be much greater than the reality. Hence, nothing is more common than to see two nations making out a state of the same account, so as to represent the balance as greatly each in their own favour; yet though this absurdity be apparent, the practice, from habit, has been persisted in.

To ascertain the balance of trade between two nations, so many particulars require to be adverted to, which elude the observation of the most attentive observer, as to render the attempt fruitleſs. If it could

be done with perfect accuracy at all, it would be done by means of the course of exchange between the two countries. But though this be, without doubt, the only poſsible mode of approximating to the solution of this problem; yet, unleſs the two nations, with regard to which this attempt were made, ſhould be excluded from all commercial intercourse with every other nation, it cannot be *absolutely* accurate; because, by means of a circuitous exchange with other nations, the effect of an extraordinary balance may be much moderated on particular occasions. As many of your readers probably are not fully acquainted with the nature of exchanges; and, as I observe, you mean to give annually a list of the state of exchange between Britain and the principal commercial nations in Europe, I ſhall hope that a ſhort explanation of the nature of exchanges, and the manner in which these become an index of the balance of trade, will prove acceptable to them in general. This I ſhall briefly give in the following pages.

By the term balance of trade is meant the proportion in value, that the quantity of goods exported from a country bears to that imported into it, from another country.

It is only in consequence of one article being considered as of equal value in all countries, that the idea of an inequality in the balance of trade can exist; for without that there would be no standard by which the value of the exports and imports of a nation could be estimated. This article is universally gold and silver. I call them *one* article, because they preserve nearly an equal proportion in value to one another, under the

denomination of money; if they did not, one of them only must come to be this universal standard.

Without the use of bills of exchange, there could not exist a balance of trade, even although the establishment of *money*, as above mentioned, should have taken place; because, there must, when goods are exported from a country, be goods imported to the same amount to repay them. It being to be observed that money must be considered, with regard to importation and exportation, entirely in the same light as any other commodity; for it matters not to a nation whether the property it possesses consist in this, or any other article of equal utility.

The rate of exchange is the only medium by which the state of the balance of trade can be ascertained, and it is infallible, unless as above specified.

The rate of exchange is the price at which bills drawn by one nation on another sell; for instance, if a bill be drawn in London on Paris for 1 *ecu*, and is sold in London for 1s 9d Sterling, the rate of exchange is 1s 9d *per ecu.*

It is by comparing this rate of exchange with the quantity of gold and silver contained in the respective monies of the two nations, that the state of the balance of trade can be ascertained; for example, if a French *ecu* contain as much silver as in Britain could be coined into two shillings and four-pence Sterling; and that *ecu* is, by the rate of exchange, sold for only one shilling and nine-pence; the value of the exports from Britain to France exceed that of the imports *to* Britain *from* France, as much in proportion as two

ſhillings and four-pence exceeds one ſhilling and nine-pence, which I demonstrate as follows:

Suppose A. a merchant in Bourdeaux, ſhips goods for B. a merchant in London, to the amount of three livres; and C. another merchant in London, ſhip goods for D. another merchant in Bourdeaux, to the amount of twenty-one pence Sterling, B. must either remit the three livres to A. or A. must draw a bill on B. for that sum; and the same thing must happen betwixt D. and C. with regard to the twenty-one pence. D. finding that he must remit this twenty-one pence to C. finds that A. has credit with a merchant in London for three livres; and finds likewise that he cannot purchase goods in Bourdeaux for leſs than that sum, that will produce in London, after paying all charges, twenty-one pence: he is therefore well pleased to give A. three livres for his draft on B. for twenty-one pence Sterling, which he remits, and thereby liquidates the debt. In this case, the reader will perceive that the exchange is at the rate of twenty-one pence Sterling *per* ecu, because a bill on London for twenty-one pence, is sold in Bourdeaux for an ecu; and he will, at the same time, perceive that the amount of exports from London is three livres, because the persons in London receive that sum in return for the said exports, while the imports from Bourdeaux amount to twenty-one pence, because the London merchants give that sum only for what they have received: now find how much silver or gold are contained in twenty-one pence, and how much in three livres; if the former be the greater, then the balance of trade must be against

Britain, because, in that case the amount of their exports would have exceeded the amount of their imports in as much as the twenty-one pence, being the value of the goods exported, exceeded in value the three livres, being the amount of the goods imported, and *vice versa.*

I need not enlarge on the effects that would take place if the exports from the one place to the other were greater, or leſs in proportion to the imports, nor on the causes that would induce a holder of a bill, such as A. to accept, or refuse of the price offered to him by a purchaser, such as D; nor ſhall I take notice of the reasons of the person on whom the bill was drawn, such as B. being willing or not that it ſhould be drawn to the amount specified in my example, or any other, as the reflecting reader will see that the rate of exchange is, primarily, occasioned by the quantity of exports and imports; and secondarily, that the rate of exchange, like the price of goods, will, in some degree, affect the extent of these exports and imports.

Before I conclude this article, allow me to observe with what beautiful simplicity nature hath provided a sure and certain remedy for every exceſs of this kind, without the interference of magistrates or legislators. Whenever the exchange becomes great against any one nation, it induces that nation, in whose favour the exchange is, to buy as much of the produce, or manufactures of the other as it can; because the purchaser has the advantage of the whole amount of the exchange in his favour. In like manner, and from the same cause, the nation against whom the course

of exchange is very high, must avoid to purchase goods from the other, because of the enormous price they come at. Thus are the manufactures of the unfavourably situated country encouraged, while those of the nation, which glories in its present advantage, are proportionally discouraged. In consequence of this increased demand on the one hand, and the diminifhed demand on the other, it is easy to see, that in a very fhort time, if government does not thwart the course of nature by some absurd regulations, that all will soon come to rights, and the course of exchange resume its natural balance. For some centuries past, Europe has been attempting, by means of commercial treaties, and other similar *wise* measures, to thwart the course of nature: But this cannot be done. We hope the time is at hand, when sober sense, instead of monopolizing principles, fhall direct the commercial legislations of Europe.

A. A. L.

SCETCH OF THE LIFE OF
JOHN, EARL OF MARR.

[Continued from p. 46.]

CONCERNING the part taken by the earl of Marr with Angus, Glencairn, Gowrie, and the other friends of Morton, to revenge his condemnation and death, and in the banifhment of Lennox, in consequence of pofsefsing the kings person at Ruthven, I fhall forbear to expatiate, as belonging rather to history than to biography.

Marr, together with Angus, and the other afsociates in the seizure of the king at Ruthven, were attainted by the parliament, on the 22d of August 1584.

Lord Marr had paſsed over into Ireland, as soon as he found it impoſsible to remain in Scotland with any advantage to his friends, or safety to himself; and there he made some advantageous conditional purchases of estates, looking forward to a change of affairs at home. From thence he came over to the court of queen Elizabeth, where, with the other baniſhed lords and gentlemen, he was honourably and cordially received.

As hereditary governor of the castle of Stirling, he was at the head of that patriotic aſsociation for the expulsion of Arran, who took poſseſsion of that fortreſs on the 2d of November. For which act of violence, he not only, in common with his aſsociates received an indemnity from the king and estates of the kingdom at their meeting of the 10th of December, but was re-admitted to the particular confidence and favour of James, who instantly restored to him the castle, and lordſhip of Stirling, together with his estates that had been alinenated, or vested in the crown, in consequence of his attainder.

Not long after, he bestowed upon Marr, in marriage, he being now a widower, the lady Mary Stuart, second daughter of Esme duke of Lennox, the king's kinsman, and unfortunate favourite, of whom Marr had become deeply enamoured, not only on account of her beauty but her amiable qualities *.

* Marr, as was the superstitious custom of the times, had listened to the nonesense of an Italian conjurer, who ſhewed him a limning of a lady whom he said Marr's future sweet-heart and wife resembled, and Marr thought he observed these features in the lovely daughter of Lennox. He had heard ſhe was destined, by the king, for another, and wrote a plaintive letter to James, saying that his health had even begun

On the 24th of July 1595, the king being at Stirling, committed to the earl of Marr, by a warrant, his son prince Henry Frederick, to his government and tuition; and with him that amiable and promiſing prince remained at Stirling or Alloway, during his nonage, where there are many reliques of that martial young prince's youthful amuſements, and, among others, the clubs with which he played at the Scotch cricket, or game of the golf †.

In this charge of the heir of the British kingdoms, Lord Marr was aſſiſted by his mother Anabella, countess dowager of Marr, who was afterwards much honoured and revered by the prince; ſhe having been nurse to his father, and probably saved him from the fangs of Bothwell. For the earl of Marr he had the moſt heart-felt affection and esteem; and when he parted from Marr, when prince of Wales, on his going to London, he burſt into tears.

King James, who was troubled by a shrew of a wife, as have been many other kings and honest men, found her adverſe to Marr, in the tuition of his son, and engaged with chancellor Thirlestone, and other nobles of her party, in attempting, by means of the council of state, to supersede him in this important charge; but the king with a fortitude above his general character, came suddenly from *his huntings* at Falkland, and

to suffer from the fear of disappointment. The king visited Marr, and said to Marr, "by G—d ye ſhanne die Jock for ony laſs in a the land".

† Prince Henry was born on the 19th of February 1594, and christened on the 1st of September, being presented in the chappel first by the counteſs of Marr to the Engliſh ambaſsador, by him to Lodowick duke of Lennox, lady Marr's brother, and by him again to the counteſs of Marr, who held his royal highneſs till the time of baptism.

taught the queen to apply more to her needle work and *less to state affairs*, writing on that occasion, the warrant to Marr, not to deliver the prince up, either to the queen, or to the estates of parliament, until he should attain the full years of majority at eighteen. Mr Adam Newton, a native of Scotland, afterwards dean of Durham ‡, was the prince's tutor §.

On the accession of James to the throne of England, and before he set out for England, on the 4th of April 1603, he gave orders for prince Henry's remaining at Stirling with the earl of Marr; but the queen, impatient to have the prince in her own power, went to Stirling in order to bring him away from thence, and carry him with her to England; but the trustees appointed by Mar, who was himself gone to London with the king, refused, without the royal warrant, to deliver him into her majesty's hands, which threw her into such an agony of grief, or rather of indignation, that she miscarried of the child with which she was preg-

‡ Anno 1606, which he resigned 1620, and was created a baronet. Newton was a good man, and an excellent scholar.

§ In the year 1699, king James presented to his friend the earl of Marr, for the future use of his pupil, the BASILICON DORON, which contains many excellent advices to a prentice king of Britain, and among others one, that if it had been remembered, would have saved the royal family from exile and destruction. "I would have you rather to marry one that were *fully* of your own religion, her rank and other qualities being agreeable to your estate. For though, to my great regret, the number of princes of any power or account professing our religion be but very small, and that therefore this advice seems to be the more strait and difficile; yet ye have deeply to weigh and consider upon those doubts, how you, and your wife can be of one flesh, and keep unitie betwixt you being members of two opposite churches. Remember what deceived Solomon, the wisest king that ever was, and that the ce of perseverance is not a flower that groweth in our garden".

nant*. The king being informed of this accident, ordered Marr to return to Scotland, sending after him, the duke of Lenox, with a warrant to receive the prince, and deliver him to the queen, which was done in the end of May.

The queen, however, not satisfied with this conceſsion complained, in strong terms, of Marr, and wrote a letter to the king, full of paſsion, which ſhe delivered to her almoner Mr John Spottiswood, soon after made archbiſhop of Glasgow; but the king knowing the innocence, and fidelity of Marr, refused to be troubled with her complaints, saying, that ſhe ought to forget her resentment when ſhe considered, that under God, his peaceable acceſsion to the throne of England was due to the temper and addreſs of Erſkine. But when the queen received this meſsage, ſhe said, in the true spirit of an angry woman, that ſhe ſhould rather have wiſhed never to see England, than to be under obligations to Marr †.

On the 24th of June, this year, the king gave Marr, as has been mentioned, his discharge for the government of the prince, full of honourable expreſsions respecting his fidelity and conduct in his education; and having already given him the garter, he gave him

* Birch's Life of Prince Henry.

† It has been an uniform tradition, that the foundation of Anne's dislike to Marr was a funny piece of imprudence of the king's, who ſhould have told Marr, the morning after his marriage, that he was much surprised at the queen's manner of receiving him, and that he imagined the joys of matrimony were no novelty to her most sacred majesty! This fancy of the king's, cost afterwards the life of the bonny earl of Moray.

"O the bonny earl of Moray, he played at the glove,
'And the bonny earl of Moray he was the queen's love."

a gold key, and next year a grant of the abbeys and church-lands of Cambuskenneth, Dryburgh, and Inchmahome, dated the 27th of March 1604. "For the good, true, and faithful services, and acceptable pains, and care taken by his ancestors, in the education of his majesty, and his progenitors, and particularly of his own by the regent, as of his son by Marr, and for his speedy and dutiful discharge of his errand in the several embafsys wherein he had been employed by his majesty, disannexing these church-lands from the crown, and erecting them into a temporal lordfhip, with suffrage in parliament, to be called, in all times coming, the lordfhip of Cardrofs, to him, and heirs, and succefsors that fhould happen to be provided by him to the said lordfhip; and in consequence of this grant, lord Marr conveyed this estate and honour to Henry the godson of the prince of Wales, his second son, by his second marriage, whose descendants sate in the parliaments of Scotland, as lord Cardrofs of Dryburgh, &c. until the death of William earl of Buchan in 1693, when it was merged in a superior title.

In the year 1606, his eldest son, by the lady Mary Stuart, was married to Mary Douglafs countefs of Buchan. The heirefs of that honour from James Stuart of Lorne, uterine brother of James the second of Scotland by Jane Plantagenet, daughter of the earl of Somerset, and grand-daughter of king Edward the III. widow of James the I.

This marriage was obtained by the king's patronage, and Buchan went, by the king's appointment, with the Baby Charles to Spain.

(*To be concluded in our next.*)

For the Editor of the Bee.

I send you the particulars of an ancient feast. F. J.

The goodly provision made for the feast at the inthronization of the Rev. Father in God George Nevall archbishop of York and chancellor of England, in the 6th year of the reign of king Edward IV.

300 quarters of wheat
300 ton of ale
100 ton of wine
1 pipe ipocrasse
104 oxen
6 wild bulls
1000 muttons
304 veales
304 porks
400 swans
2000 geese
1000 capers
2000 pigs
400 plovers
100 dozen quails
200 dozen reeves
104 peacocks
4000 mallards and teals
204 cranes
204 kids
2000 chickens
4000 pigeons
1500 hot pasties of vennison
608 pikes and breams
4000 conies
204 bitterns
400 heron shaws
200 pheasants
500 partridges
400 woodcocks
100 curliews
1000 egretts
500 and more stags, bucks and does
4000 cold vennison pasties
1000 parted dishes of jelly
3000 plain dishes of jelly
4000 cold baked tarts
3000 cold custards baked
2000 hot custards
12 porpoises and seals

Spices, sugared delicates, and wafers plenty.

Q. How many guests?

Can any of our readers furnish the particulars of any feast before the conquest? *Edit.*

WINTER, AN ODE.

To the Editor of the Bee.

FLED is the chearful verdant spring,
And all the sweets of summer's dawn;
No more we hear the ſky-larks sing,
Or reaper whistling o'er the lawn.

Th' enliv'ning sun withdraws his beams,
And sable clouds his face o'erſhade;
Faint are his few meridian gleams,
Which o'er the gelid waste are spread

Now Flora's children drop asleep,
Or sink beneath the stormy blast;
Dejected nature seems to weep,
And mourn the year's best beauties past

Where late within the mazy grove,
I ponder'd o'er the lyric page;
Or to sweet Cælia sigh'd my love,
Bleak winter storms with wasteful rage.

The northern light, with ſheeted glare,
Displays a melancholy scene;
The frozen waste, the woodland bare,
The meadow brown, which erst was green.

Chill Boreas foaming from the north,
His frosty breath begins to blow;
Then fly his fleecy legions forth,
And robe our fields in virgin snow.

The furious tempest louder wakes,
Thick drives the snow like mountains high;
Beneath its force the cottage ſhakes,
And devastation meets the eye.

Since gloomy nature seems to frown,
And will no smiling aspect wear,
Let love our gen'rous wiſhes crown,
And friendſhip warm the circling year.

Why ſhould we with the winter mourn,
Or vainly pine at future woe?
Haste! heap the fire, and make it burn,
Here dwells no frost or drifted snow.

Although the plumy choir are fled,
  Strike up a catch and sound it high;
No zephyrs fan the frosty glade;
  Then in their place the bottle ply.

Soon comes the furrow'd brow of age,
  And winter soon on man ſhall seize,
When nought upon this earthly stage,
  Nor love, nor friendſhip him can please.

Then let's remember chearful May!
  Nor vainly waste the paſsing hour;
Man is the pageant of a day;
  A fleeting ſhade! a fading flow'r!

THE NORLAND SHEPHERD.

VERSES IN THE VULGAR SCOTTISH DIALECT.

Occasioned by seeing two men sawing timber in the open fields in defiance of a furious storm.

MY frien's for gude'sake quat your wark!
Nor think to stan' a wind sae stark.
Your sawpit-stoops like wauns are ſhakin';
The vera planks and dales are quakin':
Ye're tempin' providence, I swear,
To raise your graith sae madly here.
Now! now ye're gone!---Anither blast
Like that, and a' your sawing's past.
  Come down ye sinners! grip the *saw*
Like death, or trouth ye'll be awa'.
Na, na, ye'll saw, tho' hail and sleet
Wreathe o'er your breast, and freeze your feet.
Hear how it roars! and rings the bells;
The carts are tum'lin' roun' themsels,
The tyle, and thack, and turf up whirles;
See yon brick lum! down, down it hurles!
But wha's yon staggerin' o'er the brae,
Beneath a lade o' bottl't strae?
Be wha he will, poor luckleſs b----h!
His strae and him's baith in the ditch!
  The sclates are hurlin' down in hun'ers,
The daudin' door and winnock thun'ers,
But ho! my hat! my hat's awa!
L---d help's! the sawpit's down an' a'!
Rax me your haun'.---Hech, how he granes!
I fear your legs are broken banes;
I tell't you this; but deil-mak-matter,
Ye thought it a' but idle clatter;

Now see, ye misbelievin' sinners,
Your bloody ſhins, your saw.in flinn'ers,
And roun' about your lugs, the ruin,
That your demented folly drew on.

MORAL.

Experience ne'er sae sicker tells us,
As when ſhe lifts her rung, and fells us *.

A WILSON.

SONNET DE DON PEDRO CALDERON.

Ves eſsa rosa, que tan bella, y pura
amaneciò a ser Reyna de las flores?
pues aunque armò de espinas sus colores,
defendida vivio, mas no segura.

A tu Deidad enigma sea non obscura,
dexandose vencer, porque no ignores,
que aunque armes tu hermosura de rigores
no armaras de impoſsibilidades tu hermosura.

Si eſsa rosa gosarse no dexara,
en el boton donde nasciò muriera,
y en èl pompa, y fragrancia malogràra.

Rende pues, tu hermosura, y considera
quanto fuera rigor, que se ignoràra
la edad de tu florida Primavera.

A translation is requested.

A SONNET BY DRUMMOND OF HATHORNDEN, *anno* 1616.

I know that all beneath the moone decayes,
And what by mortalles in this world is brought,
In time's great periods ſhall returne to nought,
That fairest states have fatall nights and dayes:
I know how all the muses heavenly layes;
With toyle of spright which are so dearly bought,
As idle sounds, of few or none are sought,
And that nought lighter is than airie praise.
I know frail beautie, like the purple flowre,
To which one morne of birth and death affords;
That love a jarring is of mindes accords,
Where sense and will invaſsall reason's power.
Know what I list, this all cannot mee move,
But that, oh mee! I both must write and love.

* Our readers, in general, we hope will pardon us for indulging a young writer for *once*, in his attempt to display his talents in this antiquated, affected language.

NINA, A STORY.

[Continued from p. 80.]

As soon as he entered the room, Nina threw her arms round his neck, and clasped him for a considerable time, without uttering one word; when ſhe thought her joy satiated, her next care was to reach him an easy chair; to take out of a clothes-preſs, a lighter habit than that which he wore, and which the exceſsive summer's heat must have rendered insupportable to him. And, while ſhe cooled him with a fan, which in that country is used by both sexes, and which ſhe had snatched from the hands of a servant, desirous of saving her that trouble, ſhe said, in a paſsionate voice, "how I hate this senatorial office; which, at the same time it presents to me a man of high rank and accompliſhments, subjects you to cares, which, by depriving me of your presence, takes from me the dearest thing I have in the world, and on which alone, my life, my pleasure, my happineſs depend! Must it then be determined, that general is to be preferred to private good?"

"How tender and delicate you are, my dear Nina!" replied the senator; "I ſhould not be ambitious of this high condition of life, but in hopes of appearing more worthy of your love; and I can only complain, because it does not furniſh me, as much as I could wiſh, with the means of ſhewing how dear you are to me."

The wife of the senator remained concealed in the closet, the door of which was a little a-jar, and did not lose a single glance or expreſsion of the lovers; ſhe had the mortification to see their careſses—their happineſs. What did ſhe not undergo? She was often tempted to quit her retreat—to interrupt them—to go and throw herself at the

feet of the senator, and there claim the restitution of her rights. However, ſhe thought it best to let him alone for the present, least the presence of her rival ſhould be too great an obstacle to the ſucceſs of her design.

The senator, being expected that day to dinner with one of his brethren, made his visit ſhorter than usual. He took leave of his mistreſs with the most tender expreſsions, such as are made uſe of by lovers who are forced to part for whole years. Nina employed every means ſhe could invent, to prolong the pleasure of seeing him; at length they parted to their mutual regret.

The wife of the senator no sooner saw her husband gone, than ſhe quitted her retreat, and ran to embrace Nina, thanking her in the most paſsionate terms, for the service ſhe had done her; and remembering her promise of recompense, ſhe presented her with a gold bracelet to wear, according to the custom of the Venetian ladies. It was one of the most costly that could be bought, and was worth near ſix thouſand crowns, on account of its beauty, and the great number of jewels with which it was enriched. There needed not many words to perſuade the courtezan to accept this precious gift; besides her natural avidity, the affluent circumstances the giver appeared in, notwithstanding the ill return her love had met with, did not allow her to make the slightest refusal. They quitted each other, and the lady went to the house of one of her friends, whom ſhe acquainted with her griefs, and her whole story, and begged her to invite herself to dinner with her husband the next day, well aſsured that he would not seek any excuse, or fail to receive her himself at his house. Her friend promised to comply with her desire, and went in the afternoon, as by accident, to the place where ſhe knew the senator had dined, and drawing him a moment aside, acquainted him with the plan privately agreed on between her and his wife.

Her discourse introduced a conversation on his spouse's humour; he said he feared to expose himself to it; that for almost three years, he had seen her but seldom, and that this retreat had procured him an uninterrupted tranquillity. "You cannot with any colour of reason decline granting me the favour I aſk," answered the lady; "how do you know but my presence may ſhelter you from her ill temper? consider that it is rather to please me, than to gratify her, you take this step; is it so difficult a thing to sacrifice to your wife an hour or two of your time, once in three years, you who daily paſs many with persons who are insupportable to you?"

The senator, overcome hy her intreaties, consented, and caused his wife to be told, that her friend would dine with her the next day. The exceſsive joy of the lady cannot be conceived. She took care to provide an entertainment, with which her two guests could not but be satisfied; how impatient ſhe was till they came!—ſhe at last saw them enter the house.

The senator, desirous of avoiding being one moment alone with his wife, had thought proper to go himself for the lady, and not to return without her. His wife, as soon as ſhe saw him, began to act the same part ſhe had seen so well performed by Nina, the preceding day; and ſhe soon perceived that her behaviour was highly agreeable to her husband. Dinner-time being come, they sat down to table.

The senator remarked, with apparent satisfaction, a gaiety hitherto unknown to him, in the heart of his wife; he saw in her eyes, with some emotion, that love which had distinguiſhed the first three years of his marriage. Her constant aſsiduity to please him, during the repast, at once astoniſhed and delighted him; he often said to himself, "How great has been my mistake? Can I deny that I poſ-

ſeſs the handsomest woman in Venice? Has ſhe not beauty, wit, vivacity,—in a word, all the accompliſhments which please me in Nina?" The paſsionate, delicate lover, the honest man, and the christian, were all roused in him.

When the lady who had been invited, complimented her friend on the entertainment, which was very elegant, the senator, with the greatest satisfaction, heard his wife reply "that whatever pleasure ſhe found in receiving her as ſhe merited, ſhe could not but own, her husband had the greatest ſhare in her endeavours to make it agreeable, hoping at the same time, both were satisfied." She besought her to pardon this avowal, which was rendered excusable by so long an absence as the senator had made her endure, and the sentiments ſhe now entertained. She saw her husband's happy situation; ſhe had too much interest in the discovery, to let it escape her.

She seized this opportunity to present his children to him, whose education had been committed to the care of an accompliſhed governeſs, and who had dined in a separate apartment. Their natural tenderneſs, and the instructions they had received, previous to this interview, made them run into the arms of their father, who gave them an equally cordial reception. His wife, who did not omit one aſsiduity or politeneſs, as if ſhe had feared lest their fondneſs ſhould be troublesome to her husband, ordered them to retire. The senator, who penetrated into the motive of her giving that order, said, in a tender tone of voice, "why do you force them to leave me thus? You cannot surely suppose I have any repugnance at seeing them." This answer, which inspired the two ladies who were present at this moving scene, with hopes that the love of his children would arouse in him that which he had formerly had for his wife, forced them to let fall some tears which they could not refrain.

The senator was obliged to bear them company. As soon as they arose from table, a conversation, which lasted above an hour, ensued. The husband appeared extremely well satisfied and tranquil: He gave answers to every one of his wife's questions, without any apparent irksomeness. His business requiring him to go out soon, he took his leave of the two ladies, and having embraced his wife's friend, he, with the like complaisance, kissed his spouse, to the astonishment of both. This prompted her to ask him when he would return. After having mused some time, he said, in the evening. The joy this answer gave his wife was so great, that she fell into the arms of her friend in a swoon. The two witnesses of this affecting scene now wept afresh, and the senator, as soon as his wife was recovered, took his leave a second time, giving her a tender squeeze by the hand. He kept his word, and returned home early. His wife now, not satisfied with imitating the courtezan, endeavoured to the utmost of her power to out-do her, and her husband gave her the same tokens of affection as he had the day before given to Nina; in short, he who but a few hours before, would have yielded his whole life an entire sacrifice to his mistress, now thought of nothing but the fond caresses of an assiduous wife.

Nina, surprised that a day had elapsed without seeing him, was so uneasy, that she sent to him early the next morning, to desire his company as soon as possible. The pleasure he received from the reconciliation with his wife, was so great, that this message was absolutely necessary to remind him that such a woman as Nina existed. Being however, firmly determined to put a final period to this commerce, he ordered the emissary of the courtezan to tell her mistress, that he would go to her immediately. As soon as he was dressed, he repaired to her house.

When the usual carefses were over, he perceived fhe wore the bracelet which had for a long time adorned his wife's arm ;—surprised at seeing it in the pofsefsion of another, he afked who had made her that present? "A female magician," replied fhe, "who with all her cunning, has not found out the way of making herself beloved. I have the greatest reason to think that this ornament entails misfortune on all its wearers; I begin to feel it; I did not see you all day yesterday, and you receive to-day the marks of my love with an unwonted coldnefs." The senator prayed her to be serious, and to own by what means fhe came by that bracelet. She contented herself with saying, that fhe received it from an unknown lady, as a recompence for some advice fhe gave her, not thinking proper to tell him how fhe had acquired it, fearing lest he fhould take umbrage at her complaisance to an incognita, in making her a witnefs of his behaviour while he was at her house. "Nothing," said fhe, "fhall ever make me reject the idea I have conceived of the fatal power I attribute to it; I am even ready to part with it."

The senator, pretending to believe these were her real sentiments, prefsed her to give him the preference over all those to whom fhe would chuse to give it. "From this moment it is yours," said fhe, presenting it to him. He accepted it, and having but a small sum of money about him, he gave her his note for its value, thinking to trace the bottom of this adventure, by his wife's sincerity. A pretended indisposition served him as an excuse for retiring. He staid only an hour with Nina, and during his visit he did all he could to hinder her from being certain of her approaching misfortune. He at length quitted her, resolving to see her as seldom as pofsible.

He returned home immediately, and found all the charms of Nina, in his wife, who confefsed to him by what ac-

cident the bracelet, which he had brought back, had belonged to the courtezan. He was well pleased with the step ſhe had taken, which was a striking proof of her love, and the great regret the loſs of him had given her. He sent the money that night, for which he had given his note to Nina in the morning; and from that time, he desisted from his visits. When he saw her by accident, her downcast look and apparent grief only reminded him of the sorrows his wife had experienced before he was reclaimed.

Our happy pair continued to live in love and harmony to the end of their days, and heaven crowned their union with five more children, who, like the former, promised fair to inherit their parent's virtue.

INTELLIGENCE RESPECTING ARTS.

Naval affairs.

Accident frequently gives birth to discoveries of the highest importance; and it often happens that men, in very obscure stations in life, are poſseſsed of some useful branches of knowledge, which the keenest researches of philosophy have not been able to discover. An instance of this kind occurred some time ago, that ought to be universally known among all the people of a small nation surrounded and intersected by seas, as ours is.

A veſsel having sprung a leak in the Atlantic ocean, which admitted more water than could be voided by the pumps, the master and men, to the number of   were obliged to betake themselves in haste to their boat, a small Norway ſkiff, and abandon themselves to the mercy of the waves in that hazardous vehicle. They were toſsed about for some time, in the most imminent danger, every wave seeming to threaten their utter destruction,—but were providentially preserved. They all watched toge-

ther for many hours; but at length it was necefsary to take some repose. For this purpose the boat's company was divided into two parties; the master at the head of the one, and the mate at that of the other; which were to keep watch by turns. During the time the mate was asleep, the master observed a line, or small rope, hanging over the stern of the boat. Thinking this had fallen over by accident, and that it would retard the motion of the boat, he pulled it in. At this time the sea was still much agitated; but the boat went through the water with tolerable ease, and seeming safety. Bye and bye, however, the storm appeared to increase, the sea became more boisterous, the waves broke upon the little fkiff, and they were every moment in danger of being swallowed up. In the agitation and bustle which this occasioned, the mate was awakened; and seeing the rope away from the stern, he flew into a violent pafsion, thinking it had been, by the carelefsnefs of some person, allowed to slip overboard entirely. Being informed of the truth, and seeing the line, he instantly seized it, and threw it out behind the vefsel, taking care to fix one end of it very securely to the boat. The other men could not comprehend the meaning of all this; but, to their agreeable surprise, they found, that in a few minutes, the sea ran more smooth than before, and the little fkiff bounded over its surface in a much more easy manner than they had just experienced.

The mate then told them, that he himself being a Norwegian, had been bred up as a fifherman on the coast of Norway, and had often experienced the salutary effects of this contrivance. Every person on that coast, he said, knew its effects perfectly, so that no boat ever goes to sea there, without a piece of spare line for that purpose, as it has been found, by many trials, that in case of a

storm arising, a boat could *live* in a rough sea, with much greater safety, with such a line dragging after it, than without it. The boat's company, without being able to aſsign any reason for this phenomenon, were well convinced of its efficacy on the present occasion, and took care to avail themselves of it until they were providentially taken up at sea, after having suffered great hardſhips from hunger and thirst.

Captain Kennedy, after he was on ſhore, took care to communicate an account of this discovery; but how it has happened to be so little adverted to, I cannot tell. He afterwards drew up a narrative in writing, which now lies before me, in which he states another fact that strongly confirms the great utility of this very simple contrivance.

"On our paſsage to London, on board a large ſhip deeply loaded, the sea ran high for several days; and, scudding, it was thought absolutely neceſsary to put in the dead lights. The weather being cold, and not having a fire place in the cabin, caused us to constitute in its place, a large tub filled with sand, in which we made a fire, and not only dreſsed victuals for the cabin, but also for the ſhip's crew; as there was no poſsibility of making fire on the deck. In this situation my mate applied to the master of the veſsel for leave to put out a tow-line, which he scornfully refused; however, next morning, when the master of the veſsel was asleep, we put out the tow-line, a coil of laneard of sixty fathoms, with a piece of wood at the end of the line. To the great astoniſhment of the mate and crew then on deck, the sea abated, and did not range or come near the ſhip's stern, as it had done before the line was made use of. Next morning, two of the middle dead lights were taken down, and the ſhip's crew were able to make a fire on the deck, *though the sea*

ran as high as before the line was made use of. The line was kept out the remainder of the voyage, when scudding. I have had frequent trials of the line in paſsages from Jamaica, in the depth of winter, without ever making use of dead lights, unleſs sometimes in the quarter windows, and in a small veſsel, and cold weather, while scudding." (Signed) JOHN KENNEDY.

REVIEW.

Sir John Sinclair's statistical account of Scotland.

IT is with pleasure we anounce the publication of the second volume of Sir John Sinclair's statistical account of Scotland, and that we have it in our power to add, that it seems to improve as it advances, and that the clergy discover a laudable alacrity, in furniſhing each his quota of useful information. There can now no longer remain a doubt that the whole will be completed before it can be got printed off; and that it will then afford a much more authentic and satisfactory account of the present state of Scotland, than ever before was given of any other country on the globe. What would we now give for a similar account of the ancient state of the kingdoms of Solomon or Cyrus,—of Egypt under the Ptolomies,—of Greece under Pericles,—of Rome, at the commencement, and at the end of the commonwealth,—of Carthage, Syracuse, and the dominions of the Caliphs, at the most interesting periods of their respective histories! From such sources of information we are now for ever excluded; and our posterity will have an advantage in this respect above us, which we can only regret but never attain.

Among the variety of important facts which here present themselves, almost in every page, that will furniſh matter for interesting reflections to the attentive reader,

one of those which ought most forcibly to strike our brethren beyond the Tweed, is the state of the poor, and the poor's funds in Scotland. While England is groaning under the influence of a system of laws, that are opprefsive to her manufactures, subversive of industry, and inimical to the morals of her people ;—while, by their extension, she sees the industrious part of the community loaded with a burden that is already opprefsive, and every day increasing with a rapidity that gives room to the most serious alarms, she will here see, that the poor of Scotland are in general abundantly supplied with all that their wants require, by means of a small pittance of alms, voluntarily given by the lower clafses of the community only ; and that scarcely any complaints are made of the insufficiency of the funds, except in such parishes where the inhabitants have, *unadvisedly*, had recourse to an afsefsment of themselves in a poor's rate, somewhat similar to that in England. In all these cases we find strong complaints of the insufficiency of the funds ; though it appears by the statements, that in these parishes, the amount of the poors funds, in proportion to the number of the people, is much greater than in the parishes where voluntary alms only are applied to that use.

These facts are strong and unequivocal proofs of the pernicious tendency of the whole system of poor laws, that, from mistaken principles of humanity, have been gradually adopted in England, and there cherished, till the very abuses they produce, have created such a powerful body of men, who devote their most strenuous efforts to support them, as defies a pofsibility of reform, without a convulsive struggle, that must long deter sober men from engaging in it. What a lefson is this for Scotland! and how cautious ought those, who have her interest at heart, be to guard against the introduction of this most serious evil with which she ever can be threatened! This

is at present an easy matter; for although there be laws *apparently* in force in Scotland, authorising the afsefsment of involuntary poor's rates, *in certain circumstances;* and although those who favour this system of poor laws, have hitherto been able to persuade many well meaning persons, that such laws are indeed obligatory on the people, and have, by that means, induced some to submit to this burden; yet the writer of this article has good authority for saying, that there is not, at present in force, any law in Scotland for authorising an involuntary poor's rate, unlefs where the people, have so long acquiesced in that mode of afsefsment as to establifh it by proscription: So that in all other cases, the authority of a new act of parliament is required, before any poor's rate can pofsibly be enforced. This matter fhall be more fully explained when a convenient opportunity fhall offer; in the mean while he thinks it his duty to state this important fact, for the information of those whom it may concern.

The following extract will fhow what is the state of the poor and the poor's funds; it is considerably above a fair average of the rates and state of those parifhes where compulsory alms have never been required. It respects the parifh of New Abbey, in the stewartry of Kirkcudbright, whose population is 649, and rents at present L. 2100 *per annum.*

Extract.

" *Poor.*—From the sefsion records it appears, that the poor were much more numerous forty years ago, than they are at present, and that their numbers have been gradually decreasing. The number of poor now on the roll, does not exceed ten or twelve; for whose relief the weekly collections, amounting to L. 9, the rent of a small farm purchased with a mortification, L. 12, and the interest of some late mortifications, (L. 150, at four *per cent.*) L. 6; total L. 27, a-year, *are quite sufficient.* Not a single

pauper, in this pariſh, has left his house to beg, these thirty years; but vagrants and beggars from other pariſhes are often met with."

N. B. On the south west coast of Scotland, complaints of extra-parochial vagrants and beggars are very general, owing to the great influx of Iriſh by Port Patrick.

To be continued.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The following valuable communications, transmitted by a respectable correspondent, are received, and ſhall be inserted with all convenient speed.

A proposal for curing provisions, and victualling ſhips for long voyages, by captain Forrest of the royal navy. A receipt for dying buff colour. An account of the mode of cultivating flax in Ireland. An eſsay on a stamp off ce in Scotland, and several others.

The Editor gratefully acknowledges the receipt of *Liber's* favour on banking.

And the account of a voyage to the Hebrides by *Piscator*, which will furniſh some interesting papers for the Bee. The public spirited writer will accept the Editor's best thanks.

The eſsay and translation from Lucretius, by *Philalethes*, is thankfully received.

As also the translation of *Ovid's* epistle to his wife, by *Philotuesis*.

The query by T C. ſhall have a place the first convenient opportunity.

The second communication of *J T. obscure*, on education, is come safe to hand, and ſhall be duly attended to.

The *Norland Shepherd* will see by this number that his packet has been received.

The translation of the French verses by A. B. is received; but it is not so happy as could be wiſhed.

The verses by *A. L.* and *G. S.* are come to hand. We are sorry to be obliged so often to remind our poetical correspondents, of the great detriment their works sustain from *careleſsneſs*. They ſhould try to distinguiſh between *careleſsneſs* and *ease*. This would save themselves from disappointment, and would give the Editor much pleasure.

The anonymous translation from *Anacreon*, is destitute of the elegance and ease, which constitutes the chief charm of the original.

The subject *Anacreonus* has chosen, has been so often handled, that unleſs something *very uncommon* in the execution ſhould recommend it, men of reading will turn from it with diſsatisfaction; on a leſs hackneyed verses might have paſsed.

It is a pity N. S. has not chosen more interesting subjects for his muse. His poetry will be improved by avoiding general description, and singling out only a few interesting objects. If these are distinctly observed and touched with truth and delicacy; and if he has time to make them ſhort enough, his correspondence will then be very acceptable. Those he sent ſhall be disposed of as he desires.